Increase in production cost of fertilizers

†2094. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the production cost of chemical fertilizers has increased during a period of last three years, from March, 1998 till the end of December, 2001, due to rise in the price of coal, gas and naphtha;

(b) if so, to what extent the cost of chemical fertilizers has increased and when; and

(c) the extent of increase in the production cost of each of the chemical fertilizers produced in the country from March, 1998 to December, 2001?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SATYA BRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. It is a fact that the production cost of urea, which is the only fertilizer at present under statutory price, distribution and movement control, has increased during the period of last three years due to rise in the prices of coal, gas, naphtha and other inputs. The increase in the production cost of urea fertilizer as per Retention price-cum-Subsidy Scheme (RPS) since 1998 is given as under:

(Rs. per MT)

Year / Period	Cost of production considered in Retention Price (including 12% post tax return)	Weighted average increase
1.4.1998	6823	—
1.4.1999	6899	76
1.4.2000	7960	1061
1.4.2001 onwards	8196	236

New Pharmaceutical Policy

2095. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.